

S. 2363. An act to extend the educational flexibility program under section 4 of the Education Flexibility Partnership Act of 1999.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

At 2:57 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4944. An act to amend the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States to modify temporarily certain rates of duty, to make other technical amendments to the trade laws, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 190. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the Russian Federation should fully protect the freedoms of all religious communities without distinction, whether registered and unregistered, as stipulated by the Russian Constitution and international standards.

At 6:55 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 2320. An act to make available funds included in the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program for fiscal year 2006, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 361. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

At 7:10 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled joint resolution:

H.J. Res. 47. Joint resolution increasing the statutory limit on the public debt.

The enrolled joint resolution was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 4944. An act to amend the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States to modify temporarily certain rates of duty, to make other technical amendments to the trade laws, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 190. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the

Russian Federation should fully protect the freedoms of all religious communities without distinction, whether registered and unregistered, as stipulated by the Russian Constitution and international standards; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 4472. An act to protect children, to secure the safety of judges, prosecutors, law enforcement officers, and their family members, to reduce and prevent gang violence, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4911. An act to temporarily extend the programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, March 16, 2006, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 1184. An act to waive the passport fees for a relative of a deceased member of the Armed Forces proceeding abroad to visit the grave of such member or to attend a funeral or memorial service for such member.

S. 2064. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 122 South Bill Street in Francesville, Indiana, as the Malcolm Melville "Mac" Lawrence Post Office.

S. 2363. An act to extend the educational flexibility program under section 4 of the Education Flexibility Partnership Act of 1999.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-279. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania relative to authorizing the development of a secure electronic balloting system for active duty military personnel; to the Committee on Armed Services.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 411

Whereas, the United States and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania are obligated to ensure that servicepersons participate in the very democracy they are fighting to defend; and

Whereas, the National Defense Committee has recently completed a survey of the nation's 7,838 election offices; and

Whereas, twenty-eight and four tenths percent of persons who applied for a military absentee ballot in the November 2004 election were disenfranchised because their ballots could not be received, executed and returned in a timely fashion; and

Whereas, the National Defense Committee is recommending that the Congress authorize the development of an electronic balloting system for active duty military personnel: Therefore be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the Congress to authorize the development of a secure electronic balloting system for our active duty military personnel; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United

States, to the presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

POM-280. A concurrent resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana relative to taking such actions as are necessary to require the Federal Emergency Management Agency to honor the preferences of local governing authorities in determining the location of temporary housing sites; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 5

Whereas, in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has established a number of temporary housing sites consisting of trailer homes for thousands of displaced families; and

Whereas, there has been much disagreement as to the appropriate locations of these temporary housing sites; and

Whereas, local governing authorities must be permitted to make the final determination as to whether or not a FEMA trailer community is established within their respective parishes and municipalities; and

Whereas, it is imperative that the power to accept or refuse the placement of a FEMA temporary housing site rests with the citizens of the community in question and not with FEMA; and

Whereas, citizens, through the power of the local elected governing authorities that represent them, should be empowered to either allow or disallow the establishment of FEMA trailer sites in their communities: Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to require the Federal Emergency Management Agency to honor the preferences of local governing authorities in determining the location of temporary housing sites; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation and to the acting director of FEMA.

POM-281. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania relative to supporting the CORRIDORone regional rail proposal and encouraging its support by counties and municipalities in the region of the CORRIDORone project; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 565

Whereas, transportation planning efforts in south central Pennsylvania should incorporate a regional planning perspective to ensure that economic development efforts are enhanced with linkages to regional development initiatives; and

Whereas, regionwide efforts must encompass a vision for the future to most wisely accommodate future growth needs, including means of transportation; and

Whereas, transportation systems in south central Pennsylvania should include multimodal forms of transportation to ensure that the full breadth of options, including rail, bus and others, are made available to citizens for the most efficient means of travel; and

Whereas, it is extremely important to preserve the existing rail rights-of-way throughout the region and this Commonwealth; and

Whereas, the intersection known as the Lemoyne Connection will provide additional